

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 ACDA-05

TRSE-00 OMB-01 /077 W

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O 101230Z MAR 75 ZFF6

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7807

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 1901

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CY, US, GR

SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS' ARRIVAL STATEMENT IN ATHENS

ANKARA FOR THE SECRETARY

1. FOREIGN MINISTER DIMITRI BITSIOS MADE BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENT AND ANSWERED CORRESPONDENTS' QUESTION UPON ARRIVAL IN ATHENS FROM BRUSSELS MID-AFTERNOON MARCH 8.

2. TEXT OF STATEMENT BASED ON PRESS ACCOUNTS IS AS FOLLOWS:
BEGIN TEXT:

I MET WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND WE DISCUSSED BILATERAL MATTERS AND QUESTIONS OF MUTUAL INTEREST. WE DISCUSSED THE SUBJECT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS NOW BEING HELD ON THE QUESTION OF THE U.S. BASES IN GREECE. I EXPLAINED TO THE U.S. SECRETARY OF
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STATE THE PROBLEM AS FORMULATED BY THE PRIME MINISTER

IN PARLIAMENT. WE AGREED TO ACCELERATE THESE NEGOTIATIONS.

3. OF COURSE WE DISCUSSED THE CYPRUS ISSUE EXTENSIVELY, AND I AVAILED MYSELF OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN IN DETAIL TO DR. KISSINGER THE TWO PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY GREECE FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS. THE ONE ON THE SUBJECT OF THE AEGEAN AND THE SECOND ON THE PROPOSALS MADE BY CLERIDES--AND HOW UNEXPECTED AND COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE WAS THE COUP-TYPE PROCLAMATION OF THE TURKS OF A "FEDERATED STATE."

4. I EXPLAINED TO MR. KISSINGER THAT IT IS ONLY THROUGH THE PROCEDURES PRESAGED BY THE DRAFT RESOLUTIONS OF THE UN THAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO HOPE FOR A RESUMPTION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. WE THEN DISCUSSED PROSPECTS. THESE SUBJECTS ARE SERIOUS, DIFFICULT AND SPECTACULAR RESULTS CANNOT BE ACHIEVED FROM SUCH A MEETING. I BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT THROUGH MUTUAL BRIEFINGS AND WHEN SUCH DISCUSSIONS TAKE PLACE IN A SPIRIT OF UNDERSTANDING, THEY ARE PURPOSEFUL.

5. IN ANY CASE I WANT TO SAY THAT NO AMERICAN PLANS EXIST AND THIS WAS STATED LONG AGO BY MR. KISSINGER IN BRUSSELS. END TEXT.

6. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION ON WHETHER THERE WOULD BE FURTHER MEETINGS, BITSIOS REPLIED "YES, AS LONG AS THERE IS A NEED." ATHENS NEWS MEDIA ON MARCH 9 CARRIED BITSIOS' PRESS REMARKS PROMINENTLY.
KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

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